

MEETING OF
THE DELAWARE AGRICULTURAL LANDS PRESERVATION FOUNDATION

A meeting of the Delaware Agricultural Lands Preservation Foundation was held at the Delaware Department of Agriculture, 2320 S. DuPont Hwy. Dover, Delaware, April 18, 2012, with the following members in attendance:

Robert F. Garey, Chairman
William Vanderwende, Vice Chairman
L. Allen Messick, Jr., Treasurer
Robert L. Emerson
Theodore P. Bobola, Jr.

Ed Kee, Secretary of Agriculture
Chip Flowers, Jr., State Treasurer
Mike Valenti representing Steve Ditmer, Forestry Council
Kevin Coyle representing Collin O'Mara, Secretary of DNREC

Absent: William H. "Chip" Narvel, Jr.

The following staff members were in attendance: Austin Short, Deputy Secretary of Agriculture, and Chief of Planning; Howard Mesick, Scott Blaier, Cathy Mesick, Milton Melendez, Kathi Spangler, and Robin West.

Others in attendance: F. Michael Parkowski, Esq., and Daniel Shortridge, Chief of Community Relations for the Delaware Department of Agriculture.

Chairman Garey opened the meeting at 8:32 a.m.

I. Current Situation Report:

Robin West informed the Board that we have a total of 1,106 farms in preservation districts totaling 156,693 acres, with a total of 692 farms under agricultural easements totaling 105,558 acres at a cost of \$188,020,537. For PDR 17, there are a total of 30 new farms, comprising 1,438 acres, with a value of \$8,820,540 and 107 previously enrolled farms, comprising 11,895 acres, with a value of \$45,252,470. For the Forestland Preservation Program there are 37 Forestland Preservation Areas comprising 2,678 acres. For the Forestland Preservation Area Easements, there are a total of 9 properties, comprising 872 acres, with a value of \$1,450,804. For the Young Farmers Program there are a total of 10 Young Farmers program loans going through the settlement process, with an easement value of \$3,878,524. Twenty-nine prequalification applications have been received so far with only one being unapproved.

III. Monitoring Report:

Milton Melendez informed the Board that there are 664 state parcels to be done, and currently 287 state and federal parcels have been visited out of a total of 920 parcels.

IV. Young Farmers Report – Austin Short stated that nothing new from the current situation report given by Robin West is to be reported.

V. Expansion – Eligibility & Final Approval (Contingent Sale):

1. Lohmeyer Expansion of the Collison District, ID#K-12-03-040H. After discussion, **Kevin Coyle. moved to accept for eligibility/final approval the Lohmeyer Expansion of the Collison District, contingent upon sale, seconded by Robert Emerson. Motion unanimously approved.**

VI. Expansions – Eligibility & Final Approval:

1. Naylor Expansion of the Oak Hill Tract District, ID#N-11-12-131E. After discussion, **Theodore P. Bobola, Jr. moved to accept for eligibility/final approval the Naylor Expansion of the Oak Hill Tract District, seconded by Robert Emerson. Motion unanimously approved.**

2. Paskey Expansion #1 of the Woikoski Farms District, ID#K-11-12-092F. After discussion, **Kevin Coyle moved to accept for eligibility/final approval the Paskey Expansion #1 of the Woikoski Farms District, seconded by William Vanderwende. Motion unanimously approved.**

3. Paskey Expansion #2 of the Woikoski Farms District, ID#K-11-12-092G. After discussion, **Allen Messick moved to accept for eligibility/final approval the Paskey Expansion #2 of the Woikoski Farms District, seconded by Theodore P. Bobola, Jr. Motion unanimously approved.**
4. DECA Farms LLC Expansion #1 of the Stayton's District, ID#K-11-12-250O. After discussion, **Theodore P. Bobola, Jr. moved to accept for eligibility/final approval the DECA Farms LLC Expansion #1 of the Stayton's District, seconded by Kevin Coyle. Motion unanimously approved.**
5. Flying Hrupsa Expansion of the Albert D. Warren District, ID#K-11-12-008G. After discussion, **Kevin Coyle moved to accept for eligibility/final approval the Flying Hrupsa Expansion of the Albert D. Warren District, seconded by Chip Flowers, Jr. Motion unanimously approved.**
6. DECA Farms Expansion #2 of the Stayton's District, ID#S-11-12-205P. After discussion, **Robert Emerson moved to accept for eligibility/final approval the DECA Farms Expansion #2 of the Stayton's District, seconded by Kevin Coyle. Motion unanimously approved.**
7. Bal-Far Expansion of the Ledenham-Vanderwende District, ID#S-11-12-150M. After discussion, **Allen Messick, Jr. moved to accept for eligibility/final approval the Bal-Far Expansion of the Ledenham-Vanderwende District, seconded by William Vanderwende. Motion unanimously approved.**

VII. Secretary of Agriculture's Veto – Secretary of Agriculture Ed Kee waived the right of veto for the above Expansions.

VIII. Public Comments – There were no public comments.

IX. Minutes:

Chairman Garey asked if there were any comments or changes to the March 21, 2012, minutes. Hearing no changes, the Chairman asked for a motion to approve the minutes. **William Vanderwende moved to approve the March minutes, seconded by Kevin Coyle. Motion unanimously approved.**

X. Financial Highlights:

Howard Mesick presented the Financial Statement for the month of March 2012, informing the Foundation Board that we had, as of March 31, 2012, \$271,376.11 in the Foundation's interest bearing State of Delaware account. We received \$163.35 interest income, and \$350.00 license plate income. Expenditures for the month of March totaled \$35,677.05. After discussion, **Robert Emerson moved to accept the March financial statement as presented, seconded by Kevin Coyle. Motion unanimously approved.**

XI. Executive Session – Michael Parkowski indicated there was no a need for an executive session.

XII. Other Business:

1. Wilson Farm

Austin Short has not heard anything from the Magee family. Secretary Ed Kee mentioned that he had recently seen Mrs. Magee and confirmed that she needed more time to prepare the revised proposal for the Board. Mrs. Magee should be at the next Foundation meeting.

Austin Short presented the PDR 17 schedule to the Board: early spring/summer the appraisals should be done, late summer/early fall the negotiation process and selection announcement should be in November 2012. Mr. Short also told the Board that County letters regarding PDR 17 funding would be sent out this month.

XIII. Adjournment

As there was no further business to come before the Foundation the meeting adjourned at 9:02 a.m. The next meeting of the Foundation will be held on May 16, 2012 at the Delaware Department of Agriculture beginning at 8:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert F. Garey
Chairman